

MINUTES
of the meeting of the
**COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
IN EDUCATION**

May 13, 2015

The Commission on Professional Standards in Education (COPS) held a public meeting on May 13, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. The sites were connected by video conference at the locations below.

Department of Education
9890 South Maryland Pkwy
Board Room
Las Vegas, NV 89183

and

Department of Education
700 East Fifth Street
Board Room
Carson City, NV 89701

and

Great Basin College
1500 College Parkway
MH 125 iNtegrate
Elko, NV 89801

Members Present:

Kapua Maruyama arrival at 8:20 a.m.

Ana Zeh

Melissa Burnham

David Wilson

Frances McGregor

Members Not Present:

Karen DeLuce

Ramona Esparza

Jennifer Carvalho

Department Staff Present:

Dena Durish, Director, Division of Educator Effectiveness

Jason Dietrich, Office of Educator Licensure

Becky-Joe Puente, Assistant to the Commission

Legal Counsel:

Greg Ott, Deputy Attorney General

Audience in Attendance:

Assemblyman PK O'Neil, Nevada State Assembly, District 40

Mike Raponi, Director, Office of CTE

Jolena Johnson

DeShawn Red, Washoe County School District

Tom Regan, Great Basin College

Teresa Stauffer, Great Basin College

Patricia Cooper, Sierra Nevada College

Kimberly Moody, Clark County School District

Lindsey Diamond, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Melissa Scott, Division of Student Achievement, Education Programs Professional

Michael Robinson, University of Phoenix

Andre Yates, Clark County School District, Human Resources

Jessica Bouchte, Clark County School District, Human Resources
Roberta Kaufman, Nevada State College

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order; Roll Call; Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Burnham called the meeting to order at 8:17 a.m. with attendance as reflected above. Commissioner McGregor led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance. It was determined a quorum was met.

Agenda Item #2 – Introduction of New Members

President Burnham introduced Michelle Gallivan-Wallace. Each member provided a brief introduction of themselves and the area they represent on the Commission.

A brief break was taken due to technical difficulties.

Agenda Item #3 - Public Comment #1

There was no public comment in the north, south or Elko.

Agenda Item #4 - Approval of Flexible Agenda

Motion: Commissioner McGregor made a motion to approve a flexible agenda. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 (flexible agenda option used) – Workshop to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to the following Regulations: NAC 391.073 There were 8 individuals present in Las Vegas and 8 individuals present in Carson City and 1 individual in Elko. Workshop discussion started at 8:24 a.m. and ended at 8:29 a.m.

Jason Dietrich shared Assemblyman O’Neil’s request that the Commission modify [NAC 391.073](#) to include educators who hold licensed positions that do not contribute the Public Employees’ Retirement Systems (PERS). An amendment to the current language would allow those educators to qualify for a retiree license. Assemblyman O’Neil stated he reviewed the [proposed language](#) and is in agreement. He expressed his appreciation for the Commission’s consideration and approval.

Motion: Commissioner Wilson made a motion to move the [proposed language](#) for [NAC 391.073](#) to a public hearing. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Zeh. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 – Approval of April 8, 2015 Minutes

The Commission took a few minutes to review the minutes [provided](#). **Motion:** Commissioner Zeh made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2015 meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Maruyama. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 – Nevada Department of Education Updates shared by Dena Durish

Dena Durish welcomed member Gallivan-Wallace to the Commission. AB27 passed through both houses and is awaiting the Governor’s signature. It allows licensure for non-permanent residents of the United States and gives the ability to districts to offer employment to non-permanent residents in a non-specific shortage in area.

AB234 relates to multi-cultural education. One component relates to student academic standards requiring K-12 students to have multi-cultural coursework and does not directly involve the Commission. If the bill passes it would be effectively immediately and by January 2016 this Commission would need to adopt regulation for licensure renewals. Teachers “initially licensed” after July 1st of this year would be required to

submit proof of coursework in multi-cultural studies. The Commission would be responsible for prescribing the content of the course, the number of credits earned, and any additional specifics regarding renewals.

Although the tax proposals have not been settled, the Department of Education budget has been approved pending funding. The Department received funding for new phone upgrades, making physical changes to the southern office, and lastly a licensure study for NRS/NAC 391. The Department will be issuing a Request for Information (RFI) / Request for Proposal (RFP) for a review of the NRS and NAC and the national trends in education to identify possible gaps. The Department submitted a Technology Investment Request (TIR) for a system upgrade for licensure which was denied by Legislature because of the costs involved. They have requested additional research and identification of additional funding sources. As a result, the Department is looking at licensure fee increases. The Department will present fee increase proposals to the Commission in July or August.

The Department is currently facilitating review teams for traditional educator program providers for in areas of School Administration and Special Education and will be making recommendations to the Board for approval.

Jason Dietrich shared that over the past 2-3 months, Licensure has been able to maintain a 6-week application processing time. The Department was recently approved for Live Scan background fingerprinting and has instituted a pilot program to begin testing. Live Scan is the electronic submission of a digitized copy of fingerprints to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the FBI in lieu of the traditional ink and roll card. They anticipate rolling out the program in early July to all applicants. Additionally, as of last week, Licensure was approved by the States Treasurer's Office to accept credit cards as a form of payment. Implementation is scheduled to begin in late June or early July.

Dena thanked Jason and addressed the conversation around background checks for licensure applicants. She clarified that although there are regulations that govern the process of the revocation licenses; statute directs what is able to be done. The Department is reviewing what their statutory authority is. The Department wants students taught in a safe environment and yet also wants to afford individuals due process.

Becky-Joe mentioned an agenda item consideration form was created to track possible future agenda request items. This document will be posted to the website in the future, with a reminder from President Burnham to add the Elko location to the form.

Agenda Item #7 – Workshop to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to the following Regulations: NAC 391.073 (moved to earlier in Agenda)

Agenda Item #7 – Workshop to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to the following Regulations: NAC 391.420 There were 8 individuals present in Las Vegas and 8 individuals present in Carson City and 1 in Elko. Workshop discussion started at 8:51 a.m. and ended at 8:57 a.m.

Director Mike Raponi shared that the State Board regulates the student programs that Career and Technical Education (CTE) may offer for secondary students in NAC 389.803. These program lists are updated annually through the Board. Raponi explained that in 2012, the Department redefined CTE programs, and described the program listings for licensure requirements in NAC 391.420 are outdated and gave a few examples.

Motion: Commissioner Wilson made a motion to moved proposed language for NAC 391.420 to public hearing. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Zeh. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 – Workshop to Solicit Comments for Proposed Amendments to the following Regulations: NAC 391.425 There were 8 individuals present in Las Vegas and 8 individuals present in Carson City and 1 in Elko. Workshop discussion started at 8:57 a.m. and ended at 9:05 a.m.

Director Mike Raponi shared that the programs were redesigned three and one half years ago for agricultural and engineering technology in three strands (i.e. fabrication, power systems, and construction). They later realized it was not the best move for the programs. Those standards were reconsolidated into what is now called “agricultural mechanical technology,” which was recently approved by the State Board. President Burnham asked if there was any knowledge of the proposed changes being controversial in any way. She received no response from Commissioners or the public. Director Raponi added when speaking to stakeholders in the field and districts there have been requests for alignment in program and endorsement names.

Motion: Commissioner Wilson made a motion to moved proposed language for NAC 391.425 to public hearing. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Maruyama. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 – Renewal Process for ARL Providers

Jason Dietrich shared a proposed [ARL Provider Renewal Form](#). The Department proposed that the Renewal Form can be submitted and agendized at any Commission meeting when it encompasses any renewal period, as long as there are no changes to the provider approved program during this process. This would be considered a simple renewal. There would be no request for modifications or changes. President Burnham clarified that renewals would be submitted to the closest Commission meeting. Jason added the Department’s recommendation was based on streamlining the process for renewals and not having the subcommittee convene for a simple renewal process.

The Commission took a few minutes to review the ARL Provider Renewal Form. Motion: Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the process and ARL Provider Renewal Form. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Zeh. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #9 – Changes to Approved ARL Provider Programs

Jason Dietrich stated changes to ARL Provider programs needed to be addressed to simplify the process. These would be “modifications” to an existing program such as course title changes or a test number update. “Changes” would include adding or removing a program area, portion of a program, or a substantive change that would change the intent of the program. The Department is recommending that these two be separated out into two different processes/forms.

An ARL Provider Modification Form would be created in which a provider could request “modifications” of course titles changes and testing number updates, to be agendized at the next scheduled Commission meeting. The full Commission would be able to approve these straight forward changes without the subcommittee having to meet.

To address potential “changes”, the Department recommends these requests fall into the same ARL application timeline which has already been established. “Change” requests would be made to the subcommittee and later presented to the full Commission for final approval.

President Burnham commented she likes the distinction of what kinds of changes are minor and what changes are major. She echoes the idea of not always having the subcommittee convene. President Burnham directed staff to create an ARL Provider Modification Form to present to the Commission in July.

Agenda Item #10 – Educational Testing Service (ETS) Exam Updates

James Kenyon shared that the tests referenced in the [handout](#) were previously adopted by the Commission and are going live in the fall, effective September 1, 2015. Dena stated that usually updates are done in June, but that they were added this month as there will be no meeting in June.

Agenda Item #11 – Future Agenda Items:

- Praxis Core questions/passing rates
- Praxis fee increases
- ARL Provider Modification Form
- Conversion of temporary regulations
- TESL renewal credit language
- NAC 391.073 Hearing
- NAC 391.420 Hearing
- NAC 391.425 Hearing

Agenda Item #12 – Commissioners' Comments

President Burnham welcomed Commissioner Gallivan-Wallace.

Agenda Item #13 - Deputy Attorney General Comments

There was no Deputy Attorney General Comments

Agenda Item #14 - Public Comment #2

There was no public comment in the north, south or Elko.

Agenda Item #15 - Meeting Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.